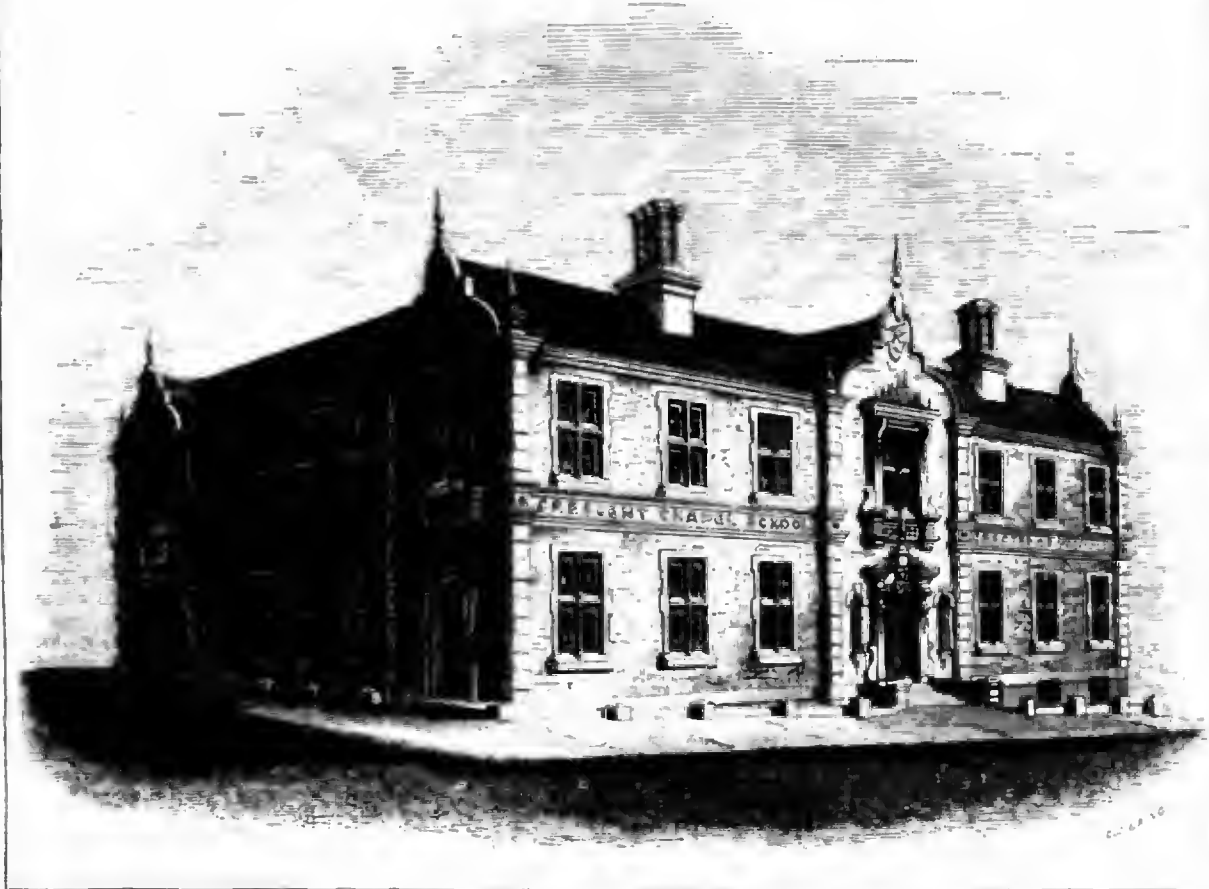


CRESCENT CHAPEL SCHOOLS, LIVERPOOL.

MR. J. A. PICTON, ARCHTCT.



NEW SCHOOLS, SALISBURY-STREET, LIVERPOOL.

THESE very ornate schools are now in course of erection by the congregation of the Crescent Chapel, Liverpool, under the direction of Mr. J. A. Picton, mentioned last week, and are calculated to accommodate 400 boys, 300 girls, and 400 infants. The plan forms three sides of a quadrangle, the fourth side open to the yard.

The infants' school is 66 feet by 33 feet, over which is the girls' school, of similar size. The boys' school occupies the opposite arm of the building, 66 feet by 36 feet, one story only in height. Each of the schools has attached to it class rooms and cloak rooms. There are also an entrance hall, board room, library, and apartments for a resident keeper.

The style of the design, as shewn by the engraving, is Elizabethan. The walling is faced with a blueish grey stone, which rises in thin beds from three to six inches thick, the joints pitched off to a straight edge. The plinth, cornice, window dressings, &c., are of red sandstone, the contrast between the two colours adding materially to the effect.

The cost, exclusive of the site, will be about £1,500.

THE COLOSSAL WELLINGTON.

Sir,—If it is true, as reported, that Lord Morpeth has requested the Royal Academicians to give their opinions respecting the equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington on the arch in Piccadilly, we may hope that after all it will be taken down, as one of the most eminent of that body has already recorded his judgment against its continuing where it is.

The question will then be, *What is to be its ultimate resting place?* I would take the liberty to suggest that Hyde-park will afford the most suitable of all localities, where no other preparation would be necessary than to take advantage of some rising ground, or natural eleva-

tion, and to place thereon the figure upon a simple platform of granite, so that nothing would interfere to detract from its colossal proportions.

Such an appropriate site will be found by taking a line east and west from Grosvenor-gate to Kensington Palace, intersected by one north and south from Albion-street gate to the Knightsbridge cavalry barracks; there, though the statue would not stand in the way of the troops when reviewing in the park, it would be seen by them; and in after-times, when the great captain shall live only in the memory of a grateful nation, his spirit would still seem to direct the evolutions of his country's troops as they will march by the effigy of the departed warrior, and the honours bestowed upon him when living, unparalleled by those paid to any other Englishman, will incite the beholders to emulate his deeds, though they may not hope to surpass them.

If no other objection existed to the statue remaining where it is, your remark upon the discrepancy of a figure in a modern costume being placed on a structure of classical design would be somewhat fatal to its repose. Another valid ground of dissent has been suggested, that it is a breach of etiquette to place a subject, however illustrious, over the privileged entrance to the abode of his sovereign; and as the great characteristic of the noble duke is his single-hearted loyalty, such a suggestion would have great weight with his grace, if his own feelings alone could be consulted.

If the statue is allowed, in defiance of public opinion, to continue where it is, we may expect to hear the observation made by Cassius on Cæsar applied to him who is now

"The foremost man of all this world," in a parody by some "envious Casca,"—
"Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow arch
Like a Colossus; and we petty men
Walk under his huge legs."

It is very remarkable that it should be the

fate of nearly all our public statues and monuments, whatever may be their own intrinsic merits, to suffer by their position; for instance, the other glory of his country, NELSON, in mast-headed, hoisted among the clouds, half the year enveloped in fog, instead of being placed near the ground, where all might look upon the features of one whose memory is so dear to his countrymen. Thus all the efforts of the sculptor are marred the moment his work leaves the studio, by the ill-directed zeal of those who have the controul of its destination.

In its present situation the finish and workmanship of the equestrian statue cannot be appreciated; but in the position I have indicated, not only would it be seen to the greatest advantage from all parts of Hyde-park, but also from Kensington-gardens, where I still hope to see a new royal palace one day erected, and whence future sovereigns of England may look with gratitude on the effigy of him who served their ancestors so well both in the field and in the council, a lesson to all that the greatest in war may be also the greatest in peace, a character—

SANS PEUR ET SANS REPROCHE.

Whilst on the subject of the palace, I may be allowed to observe, in answer to a remark in the *Art-Union*, upon "those who had previously so much to say being now silent," that so far from having lost sight of the matter, I am publishing, in a pamphlet, the letters to which you kindly gave insertion, with some additional suggestions, with the view of distribution among the members of the houses of legislature. GEORGE RUSSELL FRENCH.

7th November, 1846.

* * * The moment before going to press we received intimation, from a quarter likely to be correctly informed, that the statue is positively to come down. We take some credit to ourselves for the issue of this affair, and shall have a word or two to say on the part played by contemporaries.